Volume XIV Chicago, Ill., April, 1937 Number 1

The Liberalist

BARTER

Life has loveliness to sell:
All beautiful and splendid things;
Spend all you have for loveliness,
Buy it and never count the cost;
For one white hour of singing peace,
Count many a year of strife well lost.
And for a breath of ecstasy,
Give all you have, or could be.

Sarah Teasdale.

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THE LIBERALIST

Preston Bradley ..... **Editor**
Grace Thayer Bradley ..... **Associate Editor**

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ANOTHER YEAR

With this number our church herald and messenger—The Liberalist enters upon its 14th year. We regret the lateness of the issue but the past month has been an unusually busy one for us. We express our appreciation and deepest gratitude for the support we have received from readers and advertisers. It is our desire and ambition that this year our church paper will be more highly representative of the institution which sends it out. As the years advance we are more busy. Demands on time and strength increase. We hope our readers will be patient and understand. We intend to present a much more comprehensive and interesting Liberalist. Especially will the summer issues be unusually interesting, we will have more time for creative work. The magazine now has almost a world-wide circulation. Many copies go to the British Isles, Africa, Australia, Canada and all over the United States. Each issue during the year will contain a sermon as delivered from the pulpit. Many other articles will be written of our experiences and travels. We hope our old subscribers will all renew their subscriptions and many new subscribers will be found. Kindly accept our best wishes and remember that every subscription directly assists the work of the church. No one connected with the magazine receives any monetary compensation. The advertizers make the paper possible. Will you continue your loyalty and support?

Preston Bradley,
Grace Thayer Bradley.

MEDITATION

"Infinite and divine Heart we open our hearts and reveal our lives in the sanctity of this moment of meditation. With some of us it is another day of work, very much like every other day of the week only perhaps a little harder, with others it is a day of rest and the only day in all the week when they can have the relaxation and rest of an interrupted schedule. With many it is the only opportunity available in all the week to have a moment of solitariness with their own souls. Others are out performing the necessary work of the week out in the car, out in the street car, out in the busses, out in the railroad trains, keeping the wheels of the world revolving, but whatever this day means to us, might it mean to someone an opportunity for further development in the spiritual realization of life.

So to everyone, everyone ill, everyone who is frightened with life, some who may be deliberating about running away from life, all who are disillusioned, who have lost friends and loved ones, all who find this morning

not a morning of brilliant beauty with blue skies, but a morning of cloudiness and of fog, might there be a moment of awakening and from the beauty of our service and the inspiration of this moment might there go to every heart a reawakening and a revisioning and a beautification of life.

May that be our inspiration, our desire, our prayer, and we ask it in the gracious memory of one who spent every ounce of life's energy trying to do these very things. He left us the sweetness and the beauty of a prayer which belongs to us all of whatever creed or faith, no one owns it, no one has a mortgage on it, it is ours and belongs to everyone, every creed, every race, and while we pray together may it find a place in every heart:

'Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done
On earth as it is done in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our debts
As we forgive our debtors
And leave us not in temptation
But deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom ,and the power,
And the glory, forever and ever,
Amen!'"

"HOW OLD IS 'OLD'?"

Sermon by Dr. Preston Bradley, Pastor of The Peoples Church of Chicago, April 11th, 1937

"I am probably uttering an observation which every observing person will agree with when I say that probably the people of this country are more age conscious today than they have ever been before. Certainly I can speak rather dogmatically, as far as my own personal recollection is concerned.I never remember the time when more people were discussing the question of age than the present moment. There are myriads of editorials being written, hundreds of newspaper articles, thousands of examples of men and women who have attained a more than normal maturity and who are still contributing something, in many cases a great deal, to the sum total of human happiness and human knowledge. But everywhere you go people are discussing the question of age—when is a man, or when is a person 'old?' and it suggested the subject of my talk this morning on 'How Old is 'Old?'

The subject itself, for a moment, has a sort of paradoxical sound to it, but I think only insofar as it assists it to be interestingly challenging,—'How old is 'old?' Certainly at a time when all of us who are getting along and anybody that is as close to the half-century as I am is close enough to begin to consider that there is such a thing as age. I do not mean to imply that a person 50 years of age is old! If you imply that, you will be in an old fashioned row with me. I think one of the secrets of keeping young is keeping up that attitude when I am 60 and also when I am 70, and even when I am 80, and I may be at it when I am 90, I am not sure. But, of course, one of the easiest ways for anyone to get old is to be constantly thinking of age or suggesting to themselves that they are getting old. Most of us add antiquity to our lives and years to our ages by having birthdays. Someone has said, and said it quite recently, that people begin to limit themselves and begin to limit their lives by celebrating birthdays, because every time you have a birthday you draw a ring around your mind. I know a lot of people of which that is tragically true. It is all right to have

birthdays, but let's stop counting them! I enjoy birthdays because I like the celebration. I like getting presents and the people in my home are better natured than usual on such occasions and the day itself has a distinct charm, I like it, but I have about come to the conclusion that we will celebrate the birthdays without figuring definitely just what birthday it is.

Even so, of course, it is very obvious and a very bromidic observation to say that we begin to get old when we begin to count years, but, of course, there are other evidences of the coming of age and probably the chief evidence is to be found in one's lack of interest in contemporary things and one's utter inability to anticipate a future program. Probably most of us begin to feel the devastation of age when we cease to have a vital interest in what is taking place around us. People who are vitally interested in their immediate surroundings and in the environment in which they are functioning as an individual member of society, or who may have built up a sustenance or security which gives them a certain feeling of safety and therefore creates a lack of necessity for the acuteness of interest of what is going to happen to all of us in society, that individual is very apt to grow old very young. Evidence of the fact that they are getting old will be found in the fact that they have lost interest in the contemporary. I base that observation upon the young old people whom I know, and I assure you that some of the youngest people I have ever known have been 70 or above, and some of the very oldest people I have ever known have been around 30, an age which is determined by your capacity to maintain interest, and of, course, your capacity to maintain interest is very largely shaped by many factors. These factors must be taken into consideration, and one of these factors is health. It is rather difficult for an old person, or a young person, to be enthusiastic about life if they are not buoyant and refreshed. You know there are people that are disgustingly well and you may be half dead, your stomach upset and you feel nervous and feel terribly as if thousands of imps of hell were beating in your head and you come in contact with them and they are smiling, beaming, and you look at them and you say 'I don't feel very good, I feel badly, I am quite ill' and they look at you and say: 'I have never had a sick day in my life,' and they straighten up their shoulders and look at you and immediately you would just like to break their necks. There are people, of course, who are disgustingly well, and because they themselves are so well they don't have any idea what is means to be ill. The person who is irritatingly well is usually a person who is unsympathetic when people are ill. Whether we are young or old in the point of years we cannot be in the spirit of youth, which is necessary to retain the youth, as this body gets old in time, unless we do have the basis of health. Therefore, as a suggestion, and certainly a most obvious one, a primary factor in maintaining a youthful appeal is to obey the laws of health and hygiene and everything else that enters into the synchronization of a good functioning, working, coherent human body. I think that the interest which the public has in the question of health is certainly a very laudatory interest. It predicates the assumption that old age is going to be more fundamentally mastered in the future than in the past because of the health education which is taking place in the press. I don't refer now to the radio in the selling of myriads of articles that possess in themselves some magic power. I am not speaking of that kind of education, I am speaking of the secular education in the formation and cultivation of health habits and in the suggestions

given in most reputable Health Columns by reputable men, until I think that there may come a time when to be ill will be a positive disgrace. The individual who is looking forward and hoping and seeking for an old age of brilliancy and of interest and of outlook and opportunity, all of which is possible, will be the individual who begins now, right where they are now, at 10, 20, 30 or 40 years, whatever might be your age at the present moment, who begins now to lay the foundation for those physical laws of health which will retain as long as possible the opportunity of a youthful spirit, to have a fine body which defeats at every opportunity the normal natural processes of disintegration which takes place with the coming of the years.

We have been fortified in that idea, by some of the last words of some fine men of science. There was a time, of course, when the idea of evolution was a new idea and when people spoke of Charles Darwin in his field of science and of evolution as one of the important things in the field of science to understand, but we have superseded Darwin, we came into that period where we believed in creative evolution which was something quite different from the Darwinian idea of evolution, but with the coming of the great contemporary scientists who have had larger opportunity to understand and further develop some of the early suggestions of Darwin, and some of the later scientists of the 19th century, such as Bergson, is suggesting that there is a real truth of re-creative evolution, —that there is such a thing as re-creating the opportunity of life of functioning in a human frame that normally would be near destruction and near the fulfillment of its mission. I am inclined to accept the beautiful theory of re-creative evolution. The mere fact changes are constantly going on in our bodies so that no individual has the identical body that they brought into the church this morning. Within 30 seconds of time every influence which comes into the aura of your personality has an immediate effect of changing the biological processes of the human body. Therefore it is supremely important that those influences which do center in our lives be carefully guarded and that our choice be of such a character that we only permit those influences that have a directly constructive and creative effect to touch our personality. There is a definite principle which we are altogether, to our tragedy and sorrow, ignoring. The human body has the capacity or recreating itself and when we understand more of that very hidden influence on those parts of the human body, for instance the eye and the teeth that have a tendency to evidence age and cannot be repaired except by artificial methods, I am quite sure that the time will come when we will be able to recreate those processes just as every other atom of the body is re-created in some of the other processes. I think that we are just on the verge of experiencing an entirely new creative evolution in regard to our human bodies.

I remember hearing George Bernard Shaw in London say that the human heart itself could go on beating by recreating itself on its rest periods as it does, for remember the human heart, every heart beating in this audience this morning, rests nine hours out of every twenty-four. No organ in the human body rests more than the human heart, and yet it is constantly active. The sudden deaths which are taking place with such startling rapidity—I am burying two men tomorrow, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, who were taken so suddenly. Last week I officiated at five funerals and three of them were in this church the previous Sunday, and the rapidity with which they were taken is to be

found in the fact that our intricate, complicated life, together with its pressure, anxiety and worry does not give the heart a proper time for its functional rest, and when we stop to remember that it does rest nine hours out of twenty-four and it is a fact that the last seven or eight years have been so severe in the economic and industrial business worries for a lot of men, for many of the heart diseases are among men who have worked hard and gone through this past period of such economic and industrial stress and who have had so much anxiety because they have had to readjust and re-arrange the whole schedule of their lives and of their families and finally the necessity of pinching here and there in order to save their business or weather the financial storm. That period is now taking its toll. When we were actually in it this condition did not exist, but it is now taking its toll and there are a lot of men, particularly, who passed through that period and went through that era successfully, that had better now begin to understand the real danger, for the danger was not during the period, the danger is now when the period is over, and I remember Mr. George Bernard Shaw saying that the human heart had the capacity of recreating itself to such an extent, and he was validated by science, that if that heart could go on uninterruptedly without being influenced by any of the unusual pressure of demand which is placed against the measure of reserve, or the reserve power of that heart, that the human heart could beat almost indefinitely and certainly would go on beating, under any circumstances that could be construed as normal, for a period of 300 years. The fact of the matter is that modern science and research has enabled us to know so much about what we ought to do with these bodies that people can live longer than they ever lived before and live more successfully and more beautifully. And the fact of the matter is that they are dying sooner and the reason for it is that we are not applying in the area of actual human life experience, we are not applying the knowledge that we have. Every man and every woman in this audience listening, knows the necessity for a certain amount of rest and balance and poise, and yet what do we do with our lives? How many of us find it possible to have three or four evenings a week of absolute repose and quiet? How many of us find it in this hurly-burly world, constantly under the pressure of our modern lives and system?

I wish we might all read a remarkable book published many years ago by Charles Wagner of Paris and a book which he called 'The Simple Life,' a book which received a great deal of acclaim because it was used once in a public address by Theodore Roosevelt when he was President of the United States. Now it has all been opened up again on the question of age localized in the American nation because of the controversy of our Supreme Court when it has been intimated that a man of 70 is no longer the kind of man physically or mentally competent to pass upon the acts of the United States Congress.

Of course this debate will be carried on until this issue is settled by some form of legislative action. With the mere form I am not concerned but I am concerned with this: let us strike this mean of 70 and ask this question, Is there an arbitrary rule as to just how old 'old' is? I thoroughly believe that there is not, and because I do not believe there is I believe that not only should the age limit of the members of the United States Supreme Court be the question not the issue under debate, that age is not the issue of the debate in this particular, that the question is not a question of 70 years arbitrarily settled, but I think that the age ought to be ruled out and eliminated from the

entire area of our modern life.

I know people who are deeply concerned about what a man 70 years old will say or do on the Supreme Court and they are large employers of labor too, but those same people have a policy in their institutions that a man 60 years old is too old to work for them. I should like to see this whole question of age thrown out simply because you cannot strike an arbitrary mean that will be absolutely equitable to all parties concerned. When a great industry or industrial institution dares to assume that any man's usefulness is over because he has reached a certain age, that institution or man is simply untenable, and if you will pardon the vernacular, it does not make sense, merely because a man has reached 60, 65 or 70 years, it does not make sense!

I hold in my hand here a book entitled 'Who Says Old?' written by Elmer E. Ferris published by Sears Publishing Company of New York, I wish that every individual who wants to give a present, and sometimes people who have reached great age it is difficult to find adequate expression of love for them, and most elderly people have time to read and do read, if you want to give a present to someone who is finding it difficult to make adjustments of their lives, give them this book. It will be necessary for you to order it from your bookshop or any place where you are accustomed to buy books.

To give you just a glimpse at the comprehensiveness of the contents I am going to read the subjects of the chapters so you will see the underlying philosophy of the man who wrote this book who, himself, is over 70. When I look at my friend Mr. Organ here who is 93, this man is only a boy! Anyone who is 90 looks down upon anybody who is 70. I like that attitude and I should love to go on and philosophize on the subject of age. The subjects of these chapters is, first 'The Problem.' Second 'Taking the humorous view of things.' Age sometimes destroys our sense of humor and we are inclined to get a little vinegary and we are inclined to be antagonistic against modern youth. Never begin a discussion of a youth problem by saying: 'When I was your age....' because that will never do. First, because any young person looks at you and the moment you start by saying that, you have constructed a barrier and your influence is gone. I think there are many young people in this church and I never try to take the young people of this age back to the age out of which I came. It was a good age and in many respects I had an easier time in my age than the young people are having in their age to be young, remain straight and be good. The young people of today are having a harder time than I had. Why, I had a comparatively easy time in a world of very definite values, completely circumscribed by certain definite standards and if I stepped over, I was penalized and made to suffer. Few people suffer today among the young for what they are. Some try it as a sort of joke, as a kind of passtime. I did not know any kind of age like that. If I say to the young people of today 'When I was your age. . . .' I have lost those young people. You might as well go to that sun out there in the sky and say to it 'Don't you shine another moment!' and would it work, as to go to the young people today and try to do anything with them for they would probably answer you 'O, yah?' That is about as far as the influence goes.

And the third chapter, 'Cultivate extravert activities.' I think that is one of the secrets of success and I use as an example my friend, Mr. Organ. Most of his life he has been tremendously interested in biology and his recommendations in the field of biology are given before the youth groups of Chicago. He is now lecturing on biology to young

people. That is one way to retain youth. He has refused to become self centered and has become interested in the field of biology. I think he is an extravert, he is interested in some field outside of himself and therefore he hasn't time to sit around in slippers and in the cool and calm of the evening bemoan the fact that he is old, he goes out and studies the spider.

The fourth chapter: 'Keep books.'

Fifth chapter: 'Do some writing every day.'

Sixth chapter: 'Develop a gustatory interest.'

Seventh chapter: 'Pay more attention to dress.'

There you are! I think that that is a very important factor in keeping people young. Personally, I like a "flapper" grandmother. Of course, that word now is rather out-of-date, I understand that, but I like to see men and women refuse to grow old in this matter of dress. There is a psychological influence on the human spirit that definitely comes from outward apparel, and the individual who understands that psychology —you know what a new suit of clothes will do to a man? And, O, the transformation that some times happens in a woman when she gets a new hat! Of course, there is not much to be said for the modern hats, that's certain, nevertheless, it is a new hat! It doesn't have to be beautiful. It doesn't have to be that, but the mere fact that it is new. It has a psychological effect or influence upon the personality, and there is many a person getting along in life who has become so accustomed and so much a part of a tradition in regard to their own question of clothes that they are adding antiquity to their own age. And when I see an old man interested in the color of his tie—he may look silly and he may be silly—but there is something about him that is commendable, he has not lost the thrill of life.

You have probably heard the story of the elderly man who was told that if he would take certain pills that they would make him young. He got a bottle of these pills and after he had taken one or two it made him feel good. Noting the improvement, he thought if he took the whole bottleful he would feel better sooner. He took the bottleful of pills and the next morning when his wife went to wake him up she had to shake him and as he awoke he said: 'All right, I am getting up, but I won't go to school.'

Another Chapter: 'Keep in Touch with Athletics.'

No man is old who can thrill to a football or baseball game or a good horse race. I have loved horses all my life and there is no more beautiful animal in the world than a good horse. Keep an interest in athletics! Why, this present summer, if some old people who have been listening, if you are beginning to break down, take an interest in the Cubs or the White Sox this summer, start with the first game and labor with it, get the enthusiasm of it once, become interested in athletics! You don't have to give up your interest in athletics merely because you are getting old. When I was a boy in college I weighed 162 pounds stripped and ran 100 yards in 11 seconds, now I weigh 200 pounds stripped and couldn't run 100 yards in 11 minutes! One of these things about life is to take an interest in athletics.

Do some manual work, watch political developments. There is no finer stimulus of your faculties in our contemporary lives than a mind sharply attuned to political and civic developments. Don't think because you may be out of the picture as an active citizen that it has not something to do with keeping young. Some of the best read men and women in political affairs are people 70 and 75 years of age! On Friday last was the 88th or 85th birthday of one of Chicago's most noted citizen, Mr. Frank J. Loesch! At the age of nearly 90, where do we

find him? Interested in the political, economic and industrial questions of the day! Simply because a man has lived 70 or 75 years has absolutely nothing to do with, and should not cause him to lose his interest in politics. He should be reading and hearing and listening to the very finest utterances by the great thinkers of our contemporary life!

Get interested in this question of 'How old is 'Old'?' and life will unfold into that reality spoken of by the poet Browning that 'the last of life is the best of life for which the first was made."

PASTOR'S CALENDAR

Preston Bradley kept the following engagements during the month of March:

1—Address, Morton High School
2—Address, Men's Club, Hampshire, Ill.
3—Book Lecture, Peoples Church
4—Address, Lake Forest College
5—Address, Des Plaines, Ill., IWLA
7—Two sermons, The Peoples Church
8—Meeting, Free Church Fellowship, Committee
8—Meeting, Trustees, Chicago Public Library
8—Annual Church Meeting, Peoples Church
8—Address, Womans Club, Peoples Church
9—Address, Auditorium Theater
10—Book Lecture, Peoples Church
11—Address, Morgan Park High School
12—Address, Chicago and Cook County Federation of Women's Clubs
12—Address, Youth Conference, Evanston
14—Two Sermons, The Peoples Church
14—Meeting, Unitarian Council
16—Address, Lawyer's Decalog Society
17—Book Lecture, Peoples Church
19—Address, Ill., Normal University
21—Two sermons, The Peoples Church
22—Sermon, Erlanger Theater
22—Sermon, Peoples Church
23—Sermon, Erlanger Theater
23—Sermon, Peoples Church
24—Sermon, Erlanger Theater
24—Sermon, Peoples Church
25—Sermon, Erlanger Theater
25—Sermon, Peoples Church
25—Sermon, Peoples Church
26—Sermon, Erlanger Theater
26—Sermon, Peoples Church
27—Address, Fisherman's Club
28—Three Sermons, Peoples Church
29—New Orleans, La.
30—New Orleans, La.
31—New Orleans, La.

MEN'S CLUB

The April meeting of the men's club packed channing hall for a most educational and inspiring evening. The speaker was, Louis Perez, Chancellor of the Spanish Consulate in Chicago, who discussed exhaustively the Spanish situation. A question period lasting over an hour followed the address. Dr. Bradley introduced the chancellor. The club has a membership of nearly 500 men and has met the fourth Monday of every month all winter. The programs have all been of exceptional value. The program committee will present next season a program of similar character. The club is one of the largest church men's clubs in the country and is of invaluable assistance to the church and pastor.

Mr. Stickler of Marcele, Minnesota presented some exceptionally fine moving pictures of Dr. Bradley taken on a bass fly-fishing trip in Northern Minnesota. Seeing our pastor in his fishing togs and artistically using a fly-rod gave us a glimpse of his sumber days which was a treat for every man present. The May meeting of the club will be the annual business meeting with election of officers. All men of the congregation and radio audience are invited to become members.

—Wm. Emerich, Secretary.

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

For the benefit of those who were not fortunate in attending the Silver Jubilee Banquet given in honor of Dr. Preston Bradley at the Palmer House on the evening of April fifteenth, we will try to write a description of that memorable event, altho' we know at the start the task will be difficult.

The excitement of anticipated pleasure began as soon as one entered the lobby of that great hotel —The Palmer House—for there voices of uniformed flunkies called the incoming crowds "these elevators to the Bradley banquet." Before six o'clock the broad hall leading to the Grand Ball Room was packed with people, altho' not till 6:30 were the doors opened, and then the human flood poured in, to be seated at the tables they had reserved. Those who came not having reservations, thinking of course there would be room for all in that large place, were turned away with sad disappointment; a number of tables were even set in the hall outside the Ball Room and the entire balcony circling the room was crowded with tables to the utmost capacity.

Promptly at seven o'clock Dr. and Mrs. Bradley with the Trustees of the Church and their wives and all the guests of honor filed in from a door leading directly back of the speakers table, at which they took their respective places. Immediately they entered that multitude of people arose to their feet and the room reverberated with applause. There were thirty-five at the speakers table, Dr. and Mrs. Bradley and Mr. Hermsdorf, president of the Board of Trustees, who acted as toastmaster, seated in the center, back of them a brilliant drapery of silver, and above the table, hanging from the balcony, in large silver letters and electric lights "Twenty-fifth Anniversary." The table was graced with three large low floral arrangements of red roses.

The course dinner was excellent reaching a dramatic climax in the frozen dessert served on blocks of ice with colored electric lights in the ice; hundreds of these frozen cakes carried by the waiters in procession, three white garbed chefs in the lead, carrying huge frozen designs high above their heads. The first was a two foot figure of the "Winged Victory,"—then large figures "25th" and the last "Anniversary," lights being dimmed in the room during this spectacular parade made it very effective.

The banquet being over, the fourteen hundred people present settled expectantly for the speeches. After the toastmaster had congratulated Dr. and Mrs. Bradley and extended his greeting to the assembled guests he introduced Mayor Kelly as the first speaker of the evening. The mayor made a most friendly address of appreciation and tribute to Dr. Bradley, near the close of his speech making this statement —"Preston Bradley has proven himself ardently and honestly a citizen not of Chicago alone and not of the state of Illinois alone but of the whole United States—and indeed of the world!"

Then followed Rabbi Louis L. Mann of Sinai Temple, whose address was both witty and poetical by turns. Rabbi Mann taking Mayor Kelly's lead in the idea of Dr. Bradley belonging to the world, said:—"not only is he pastor of the Peoples Church, but the Jewish People also claim him, there are so many of my people who love and esteem him." Mr. Lewis Bernays, consul-general of the British Consulate represented Dr. Bradley's British friends, and honored him with a most delightful address sparkling with humor and charm; he said that England too laid claim to Dr. Bradley. And so on down that galaxy of inter-

esting speakers—Judge John P. McGoorty, acting head of the Superior Court Law Department of the city of Chicago,—Irish, and a good Catholic. Judge Geo. W. Wood, of Waterloo, Iowa, Judge of Circuit Court and National President of the Izaak Walton League of America, that organization of which Dr. Bradley was a founder and for two terms National President and now president emeritus. Hon. Ross Woodhull distinguished citizen of Chicago, Dr. Carl B. Rodin, Chief-librarian Chicago City Library, Attorney Joseph Fleming, president Chicago Library Board, Mrs. Chas. S. Clark, President Conference of Club Presidents, Dr. Carl Adams, President State Normal School Board, Mrs. W. H. Hermsdorf, President Chicago and Cook County Federation of Woman's Organizations, Prof. Chas. S. Lyttle, of Chicago University and Meadville Seminary, Rev. Dr. Walter H. McPherson, President of National Convention of Universalists, from Joliet, Illinois, Dr. Von Ogden Vogt, pastor Unitarian First Church, Rev. John Heyworth, Pastor of Unity Church, Rev. Edwin H. Wilson, Pastor of Third Church, Mrs. J. J. Reynolds, Vice President Trustees of Peoples Church, Rev. Lon Ray Call, Executive Secretary Western Unitarian Fellowship, Dr. Curtis Reese, Dean of Lincoln Center, and Dr. J. Morriston Thomas, minister of Ravenswood Congregational Church. Each spoke only a few minutes, but each with such warmth of friendliness and sincerity paying tributes that few men have the honor of receiving deservedly.

It is to be regretted that all these speakers were not recorded, but some of them were reported stenographically, and excerpts of them will be in the next number of the Liberalist.

Mrs. J. J. Reynolds in behalf of the Trustees, members and friends of the Peoples Church presented Dr. Bradley with a book handsomely bound specially for him, in which to preserve all letters, telegrams and press notices pertaining to this great occasion. In the book was an envelope containing a check to which many members and friends had contributed to make a gift he might use in any way desired. Mrs. Hermsdorf presented a handsome book from the members of the Chicago and Cook County Federation of Woman's Organizations, in which women of note will be privileged to inscribe their names with a few words of tribute. Telegrams were constantly being brought in all during the evening. They came from all walks of life, and from all over the country. From President Roosevelt, Gov. Horner, Senator Lewis, J. Duncan-Clark, Dr. Louis Cornish of Boston, Edgar Dewitt Jones, President Federal Council of Churches in America, Dr. Henry Clark, Louis Perez, Chancellor Spanish Consulate,—from a large groupe of citizens in Tower, Minnesota, from nearly every state in fact came one or many messages of congratulation. One from the chief door-man of the Sherman Hotel was appreciated as much as any! There were cablegrams from New Castle-on-Tyne, England, from Rev. Herbert Barnes, pastor of Church of Divine Unity where Dr. Bradley has preached many times; one from Dr. Arthur Agnew of York Street Church, Belfast, Ireland, also from First Church Belfast, and from Rev. Dr. Rowe of London who heads the British Unitarian Conference, in behalf of the British Unitarian Churches.

A radiogram came from John McCleery of Newry, Ireland, whom many in the Peoples Church will pleasantly remember often in attendance on Sunday while a post-grad student at Chicago University. In all these churches Dr. Bradley has many warm admirers and friends, and it was a delightful surprise to receive these messages from churches he is always happy to visit on his trips abroad. Space

forbids mentioning more than these few. There was a roll over two yards in length on which was inscribed the names of over eight hundred citizens of Linden, Michigan, practically the entire citizenship, of the town in which Preston Bradley was born, and which he still calls home!

Lloyd Douglas, preacher and writer, author of "Magnificent Obsession" and many other "best sellers," sent a letter of congratulations with some lovely roses. And the Chicago Ethical Society sent a large basket of beautiful spring flowers and roses.

When all the speeches had been made Mr. Hermsdorf introduced Mrs. Bradley very much to her surprise, and she began by saying she had not been warned that she would be called upon for a speech. Doubtless she above all others could pay tribute right from her heart to this man whom thousands were honoring with their esteem and expressions of affection. She spoke as his companion of the years. Ond then Dr. Bradley was introduced by the toastmaster. After a storm of applause when Dr. Bradley arose the vast audience became so quiet one could have heard a sigh. Dr. Bradley stood silently looking over that sea of faces—up at the crowded balcony and all around —blinking back the tears he could not control. What could he say? What words could he find to express his gratitude to these hundreds of friends who had been pouring felicitations upon him? It was midnight—still all these people waited for a word from his lips. For the first time in his life words came with difficulty.

He introduced his aunt, Mrs. D. S. Wilkinson, his mothers sister, the only one left of that generation, and his only sister Mrs. Russell V. Judson, the presence of these close relatives made his happiness quite complete. From a full heart he thanked the hundreds of friends who had gathered that evening in honor of his completion of a quarter of a century of religious, cultural and civil activities in Chicago.

To have founded such an institution as the People Church one might conclude was enough for any one man. But Dr. Bradley has also served our libraries, our schools and our prisons, to say nothing of countless other causes and organizations and individuals that he has aided with the best of his mind and spirit. Many have cause to remember some good deed out of his many good deeds, —and the many who attended this banquet will long remember Preston Bradley's Silver Jubilee as one of the happiest events in the life of Chicago. There was no politics in it, no jobs to be won, —no souvenirs given—just esteem and affection and gratitude of people for one man who has spent twenty-five years trying to make this world a better place in which to live—trying to further the brotherhood of man. May he be richly endowed with health and strength to carry on for many years to come!

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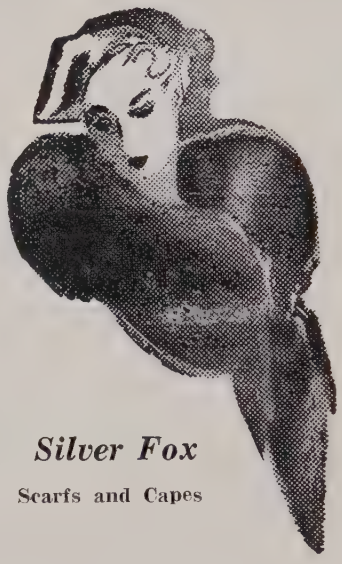

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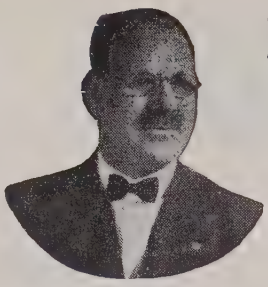

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